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[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hardiman/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hardiman/)

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## **Sen. Hardiman's leadership aids local pharmacies**

**LANSING** – Michigan pharmacies would see a more level playing field under legislation sponsored by Sen. Bill Hardiman and overwhelmingly approved by the Senate late last week. Hardiman's legislation would allow pharmacies to share operations when filling prescriptions, which only out-of-state pharmacies now can do, possibly resulting in lower costs to consumers.

"Michigan pharmacies face enough competition already without being disadvantaged by burdensome laws and regulations," Hardiman said. "My legislation would mean these in-state business owners have the ability to compete with out-of-state, mail-order firms. Ultimately, this will provide for more competition and better prices for consumers."

Hardiman's legislation would allow "centralized prescription processing services," which means one pharmacy would be able to fill a request from another pharmacy to fill a prescription. His legislation, Senate Bill 352, also would eliminate the ban on mail-order services for Michigan-based pharmacies. The new processing services ability would mean Hardiman's effort would result in more efficient pharmacy practices.

SB 352 now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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**Audio advisory: An audio clip of Sen. Hardiman speaking about the legislation is available online at [www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire/hardiman/index.htm](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire/hardiman/index.htm).**